

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Franklin Township  
Franklin County, Ohio

Regular Meeting

July 15, 2021

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## Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Horn called the Regular Meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. in person on July 15, 2021.

Opening Prayer: Led by Pastor Tim Womack

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Trustee Fleshman

Roll Call: Horn, yes; Fleshman, yes; Alex, yes.

## Motion to Approve Prior Meeting Minutes:

*Horn made a motion to approve the following meeting minutes:*

- *Special meeting on June 10, 2021*
- *Special meeting on June 23, 2021*
- *Regular meeting on July 1, 2021*
- *Special meeting on July 9, 2021*

Fleshman commented that he likes the new changes in the minutes related to how well the information flows and the easy-to-read format. The Assistant Fiscal Officer, Robyn Watkins said that the minutes are a collaborative effort between her and the temporary staff member.

*Fleshman seconded the motion; with no further discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Motion passed.

## Old Business:

*Alex made a motion to approve the following:*

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves accounts payable through July 15, 2021 in the amount of 48,855.03 and payroll paid on July 9, 2021 in the amount of 159, 581.53 for a total of 208,446.56. From check number 66646 to 66705 and electronic vouchers from 605-2021 to 690-2021.

*Fleshman seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Motion passed.

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*Alex made a motion for the adoption of the following resolution:*

**Resolution 2021-102**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED  
BY THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR**

**WHEREAS**, The board of township trustees, in Resolution 2021-083, authorized the township administrator to approve/incur obligations of ten thousand dollars or less on behalf of the township in accordance with Section 507.11 of the Ohio Revised Code; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of Section 507.11(A) of the Ohio Revised Code, the obligations approved/incurred by the township administrator must be subsequently approved by the adoption of a formal resolution of the board of township trustees.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY:**

**SECTION 1**, The obligations authorized/incurred by the township administrator as presented in Exhibit A attached hereto are hereby approved.

**SECTION 2**, That all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were passed in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 3**, That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

*Horn seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Resolution passed.

Horn introduced a presenter, Tatiana Parfenova of *Franklin County Metro Parks*

Parfenova began by explaining a project by Ohio Regional Planning Commission and Urban Land Institute called "Rapid 5". She stated the goal is to connect all of Central Ohio's major waterways and trails in order to put parks and waterways within a mile and a half of every resident of Franklin County.

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Parfenova stated that the public are welcome to attend a meeting on July 21, 2021 at The Boat House to learn more about the design of the project. She stated the public may also stream the meeting online.

She asked that the public continue to follow the project and express any opinions or concerns.

*Alex made a motion for Franklin Township to support the Rapid 5 project. Fleshman seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Motion passed.

With no discussion, Horn moved to New Business.

## **New Business:**

### **Police Department Report:**

*Chief Byron Smith* announced that the annual National Night Out event will be held on August 3, 2021, hosted by Central Baptist Church.

Smith wanted to petition the Board to restart quarterly department head meetings to help with communication.

*Administrator Mark Potts* stated that there has been discussion about resuming meetings in early August.

*Alex made a motion to resume department head meetings as soon as possible. Fleshman seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Motion passed.

*Horn made a motion to adopt the following resolution:*

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-103**

#### **RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF LEVYING A RENEWAL TAX WITH AN INCREASE IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF POLICE SERVICES PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.19(J)**

**WHEREAS**, on July 9, 2021, the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Board") passed an amended resolution declaring the necessity to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation pursuant to R.C. 5705.19(J), for the purpose of providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department, for the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to

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operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.33 of the Revised Code, for the payment of the costs incurred by townships as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection, for the provision of ambulance or emergency medical services operated by a police department, or for the payment of other related costs, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(J) for Franklin Township (the "Township"); and

**WHEREAS**, Township voters approved a 4.1-mill levy on May 2, 2017, for a five (5) year period for the purposes contained in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(J); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes it is in the best interests of Township residents to renew the May 2017 4.1-mill levy with an increase of 3.0 mills to constitute a tax of 7.1 mills for an additional five (5) year period; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 12, 2021, the Franklin County Auditor certified to the Board that the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the renewal levy with an increase during the first year of collection is \$1,202,748.63, which amounts to zero dollars and seventy-one cents (\$0.71) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, based on the current assessed valuation of the Township of \$196,900,740; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Township Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (the "Board"), two-thirds of all the members elected hereto concurring, that:

**Section 1.** The Board shall proceed with the submission of the question of a renewal levy of 4.1 mills with an increase of 3.0 mills to constitute a tax of 7.1 mills to the electors of Franklin Township (**unincorporated areas only**) for the purpose of providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department, for the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.33 of the Revised Code, for the payment of the costs incurred by townships as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection, for the provision of ambulance or emergency medical services operated by a police department, or for the payment of other related costs, as set forth in Section 5705.19(J) of the Ohio Revised Code. The renewal levy with an increase shall be at a rate not exceeding seven and one-tenth (7.1) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to 71 cents (\$0.71) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation, for a period of five (5) consecutive years, which such levy shall be a **renewal levy with an increase** that is for the same purposes as the existing 4.1-mill levy approved by voters in May of 2017.

**Section 2.** Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03(B)(1):

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- a. The purpose of this levy is for providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department, for the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.33 of the Revised Code, for the payment of the costs incurred by townships as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection, for the provision of ambulance or emergency medical services operated by a police department, or for the payment of other related costs, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19(J).
- b. The type of levy is a renewal levy with an increase.
- c. The sections of the Ohio Revised Code authorizing submission of the question of the levy are Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.03, 5705.19(J), 5705.191, and 5705.25.
- d. The term of the tax is for five (5) consecutive years.
- e. The territory where the tax is to be levied is upon the unincorporated territory of Franklin Township.
- f. The date of the election at which the question of the tax shall appear on the ballot is the general election to be held on November 2, 2021 (the "Election").
- g. The territory where the ballot measure is to be submitted is to the electors of the unincorporated territory of Franklin Township.
- h. The renewal levy with an increase shall be placed upon the tax list and duplicate of 2021 for collection in 2022, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof.
- i. Franklin Township only has territory in Franklin County.

**Section 3.** The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to certify, not less than 90 days prior to the election, to the Franklin County Auditor and to the Board of Elections, Franklin County, Ohio, a copy of the resolution declaring it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation and a copy of this Resolution together with the certification of the Franklin County Auditor; and to notify the Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying the tax to be given as required by law.

**Section 4.** It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time provided by law.

*Fleshman seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

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**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Resolution passed.

Deputy Travis Carter provided stats for July 1, 2021 to July 15, 2021:

532 runs	9 weapon-related calls	
17 reports made	2 robberies	
24 arrests	7 stolen vehicles	
5 burglaries	3 recovered stolen vehicles	
13 thefts	8 overdoses	24 firework complaints

Fleshman inquired of Deputy Carter about the increase of drug deals in his neighborhood and whether the City of Columbus is going to help. Carter stated that the City of Columbus has protocol and does not consider the situation a high priority at this time.

With no further discussion, Horn moved to the fire department.

### Fire Department Report:

*Chief James Welch* announced his upcoming retirement with his last day being January 17, 2022.

*Alex made a motion that the Board create a hiring committee to include Administrator Mark Potts, Chief James Welch, a union representative IAFF #1441, and a member of the Board of Trustees in order to post the position of fire chief and begin interviews. Fleshman seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Motion passed.

With no further discussion, Horn moved to the road department.

### Road Department Report:

*Road Superintendent Jim Stevens* spoke about the Road Department working alongside the county engineers on Hopkins Rd. behind Walgreens. He reported that the project had to be put on hold due to mechanical failure of the equipment being used. He stated that they hope to resume the work soon.

Fleshman spoke about the situation at Forest Drive and Hopkins Avenue regarding speeding and accidents. He stated the Franklin County Engineer's Office has been receiving reports from residents and has granted permission for Franklin Township to create a four-way stop in that intersection.

Stevens explained that the solution should also include Hopkins Avenue and Shady Lane which also has difficulty with speeding and accidents.

He stated that the project is a 30-day process which requires posting public notices of a change in traffic pattern, putting up road signs notifying drivers of the traffic pattern change, and placing physical stop signs and paint stop bars on the road.

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Stevens advised that people/drivers will need to become familiar with the change which may take some time.

Fleshman expressed his appreciation for support and collaboration of those involved to achieve this goal.

Fleshman made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

## **Resolution 2021-104**

### **Installations of Stop Signs (4 way stop) at Hopkins Avenue & Forest Drive/Hopkins Avenue & Shady Lane**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, that the Board approves the Road Superintendent to begin the notification and process of installing a four-way stop at two intersections. One being Hopkins Avenue and Forest Drive and the second intersection being Hopkins Avenue and Shady Lane. Proper public notification will take place and road markings will be painted in advance to educate motorists of the traffic pattern change.

Alex seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Resolution passed.

A Franklin Township resident, Mr. Ho, who lives on Shady Lane wished to speak. He read a letter to the public from the Franklin County Engineer's Office and expressed his opinions and then excused himself from the meeting.

With nothing further, Horn moved to the trustees:

Alex had nothing to report.

Fleshman inquired to Chief Smith regarding individuals standing in the median at the intersection of W. Broad Street and Wilson Road. Smith replied that this occurs everywhere in the city and that it is difficult to prosecute cases such as this. Deputy Carter said the only way an officer can act is if they visually see the person breaking the law such as taking money from a driver.

Horn asked about giving the Juanita Kauffman award this year.

The board agreed that the award could be given this fall and we could begin collecting nominations now.

With nothing further, Horn moved to the fiscal department:

Fiscal Officer, Nick Dunn was absent from the meeting.

On behalf of the fiscal officer, Alex proceeded with the reading of resolution 2021-101 for Supplemental Appropriations.

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*Alex made a motion to adopt the following resolution:*

## RESOLUTION NO. 2021-101

### A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of Franklin Township, Franklin County during the year ending December 31, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Annual Appropriations Resolutions 2020-238 for the period from January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021 needs amended.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY:**

**SECTION 1**, the fiscal officer is hereby authorized to increase appropriations as presented in Exhibit 1 hereto attached.

**SECTION 2**, That all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were passed in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 3**, That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

See Exhibit A

Supplemental Appropriations #6 For the Year Ending December 31, 2021			Exhibit A
Fund/Program/Department	Current Appropriations	Increase (Decrease)	Revised Appropriations
<b>General Fund (1000)</b>			
<b>Health</b>			
Health Districts			
Other Expenditures	\$50,000	\$4,000	\$54,000
Other	0	28,000	28,000
Capital Outlay			
Capital Outlay	15,000	2,000	17,000
Total		<u>30,000</u>	
<b>Road and Bridge Fund</b>			
<b>Public Works</b>			
Highways			
Salaries	57,000	3,000	60,000
Debt Service	23,800	5,000	28,800
Total		<u>8,000</u>	
Total Supplemental Appropriation Increase		<u>\$38,000</u>	



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*Fleshman seconded the motion; with no discussion, the roll was called and the vote was as follows:*

**Horn:**  YES/ NO    **Fleshman:**  YES/ NO    **Alex:**  YES/ NO

Resolution passed.

With no further discussion, Horn asked Administrator Potts if he had anything to share.

*Administrator Potts* shared that the Franklin County Engineer's Office will be doing some road work in the areas of Eureka Avenue and Valleyview Drive in the near future, the date is unknown.

One final comment from the police chief was that in order to enforce the new four-way stops in Hopkins Avenue, it may require some overtime from his department. Fleshman said the board will work with the fiscal office to see what funds available.

With no further discussion, Horn asks Potts if there were any questions or comments from the audience.

Questions:

There was no comments or questions from the audience.

**Adjournment:**

With no comments from the audience and nothing further to discuss, Horn adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Signature on file with original  
Ralph Horn, Chairman/Trustee

Signature on file with original  
John Fleshman, Vice-Chairman/Trustee

Signature on file with original  
Aryeh Alex, Trustee

*Attested on the 12th day of August, 2021.*

Signature on file with original  
*Nick Dunn, Fiscal Officer*